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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

AS REVISED AND ADOPTED APRIL 30, 1890

TOGETHER WITH

LIST OF OFFICERS

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS
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CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

OF THE

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

ADOPTED APRIL 30TH, 1890.

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

The Name of this Society shall be the

"SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION."

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS.

The objects of this Society are, to perpetuate the memory and the spirit of the men who achieved American Independence, by the encouragement of historical research in relation to the Revolution and the publication of its results, the preservation of documents and relics, and of the records of the individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots, and the promotion of celebrations of all patriotic anniversaries; to carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge," thus developing an enlightened public opinion, and affording to young and old such advantages as shall develop in them the largest capacity for

performing the duties of American citizens; to cherish, maintain, and extend the institutions of American freedom; to foster true patriotism and love of country; and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. Any man is eligible for membership, who is of the age of twenty-one years, and who is descended from an ancestor who, with unfailing loyalty, rendered material aid to the cause of American Independence, as a soldier or as a seaman, or a civil officer in one of the several Colonies or States, or of the United Colonies or States, or as a recognized patriot; provided that he shall be found worthy.

SEC. 2. For the purpose of making more nearly perfect the records of our Revolutionary ancestors and their descendants, any woman of Revolutionary ancestry may file a record of her ancestor's services and of her line of descent with any Registrar, who shall send a duplicate to the Registrar-General.

SEC. 3. Any person is eligible for honorary membership subject to the limitations as to age and descent established in the case of active members.

SEC. 4. The National Society shall embrace all the members of the Societies of the SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION now existing or which may be established under this Constitution. Such Societies shall regulate all matters relating to their own affairs, shall judge of the qualifications of their members, and of those proposed for membership, subject to the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE IV.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The General Officers of the National Society shall be a President-General, three Honorary Vice-Presidents-

General, five Vice-Presidents-General, a Secretary-General, Treasurer-General, Registrar-General, Historian-General, Surgeon-General, and Chaplain-General, who shall be elected by ballot by a vote of the majority of the members present at the annual meeting of the National Society and shall hold office for one year and until their successors shall be elected, and who together with the Presidents of the State Societies, *ex-officio*, shall constitute a general Board of Managers, of which Board seven shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 2. An Executive Committee of seven, of whom the President-General shall be the Chairman, may be elected by the Board of Managers, which Committee shall, in the interim between the meetings of the Board, transact such business as shall be delegated to it by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE V.

DUES.

Each State Society shall pay annually to the Treasurer-General twenty-five cents for each active member thereof. All such dues shall be paid on or before the opening of each annual meeting of the National Society, in order to secure representation therein.

ARTICLE VI.

MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS.

SECTION 1. The annual meeting for the election of the General officers and for the transaction of business, shall be held on the 30th day of April or on the first day of May in every year. The time and place of such meeting shall be designated by the Board of Managers.

SEC. 2. Special meetings shall be called by the President-General when directed so to do by the Board of Managers, or whenever requested in writing so to do by twenty-five or more members representing at least five State Societies, on

giving thirty days' notice specifying the time and place of such meeting and the business to be transacted.

SEC. 3. The following shall be members of all such general or special meetings, and shall be entitled to vote therein:

(1) All the officers, the ex-Presidents-General and the ex-Vice-Presidents-General of the National Society;

(2) The President, and Senior Vice-President of each State Society;

(3) One delegate at large from each State Society;

(4) One delegate for every one hundred members of the Society within a State and for a fraction of fifty or over.

The following named officials shall be Honorary Members of the National Society, provided they are eligible to membership in the Society, but shall not be entitled to vote:

(1) The President, the Vice-President, and the Chief-Justice of the United States;

(2) The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of the Navy of the United States;

(3) The Governors of the States and Territories of the United States:

AND ALSO the Senior officer of the Army, and the Senior officer of the Navy of the United States.

ARTICLE VII.

BY-LAWS.

The Board of Managers shall have authority to adopt and promulgate the By-Laws of the National Society, to prescribe the duties of the general officers, to provide the seal, and to designate the insignia.

ARTICLE VIII.

AMENDMENTS.

Amendments to this Constitution may be offered at any meeting of the National Society, but shall not be acted on

until the next meeting. A copy of every proposed amendment shall be sent to each member, with a notice of the meeting at which the same will be acted upon, at least thirty days prior to said meeting.

A vote of two thirds of those present shall be necessary to its adoption.

This Constitution was signed by Delegates as follows:

Wm. S. Potts New York

Lucius P. Deming. Connecticut.

George B. Abbott. Illinois

Edwin S. Barrett Massachusetts.

Wm. Henry Arnoux New York.

Wm. E. English, Indiana

S. E. Merwin Connecticut

Alfred R. Lightfoot, Alabama

John Jackson Hubbell New Jersey

Wilson R. Parsons, Ohio

Don J. Whitemore Wisconsin

N. C. Stampes St. Louis Mo.

L. Backus Columbus Ohio

W. H. Brearley. Michigan

Charles Kingsley Wisconsin

Lewis L. Morgan Connecticut

Horace H. Strong "

Ebenezer J. Hale "

C. H. McDowell Indianapolis Ind.

Albert Egerton St Paul Minn.

Henry Nalle California.

Charles E Briggs Missouri

John W Buchanan Kentucky

William Lindsay Kentucky

Luther L. Forbes Massachusetts

O. B. Fairchild New Jersey

Edward A. Hill Illinois.

Morrice Moores Indiana.

J. C. Pumpelly New Jersey

Wm Francis Cogar Annapolis. Ind.

William. O. Dowell New Jersey

BY-LAWS OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

OF THE

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

The Committee on Constitution were directed to prepare a code of By-Laws and report the same to the Board of Managers.

That committee reported on the 31st day of May, 1890. Their report was adopted, and the following By-Laws, together with the Constitution, are now the Laws of the Society.

ARTICLE I.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

All nominations of officers shall be made from the floor, and the election shall be by ballot. A majority shall elect. The nominations may be acted upon directly, or may be referred to a committee to examine and report.

ARTICLE II.

OFFICERS.

The duties of the general officers shall be such as usually appertain to their offices, and they shall have such other

duties as are hereinafter imposed. They shall report at the annual meeting and at such other times as they may be required to do by the General Board of Managers.

ARTICLE III.

PRESIDENT-GENERAL.

SECTION 1. The President-General, in addition to his general duties, shall be *ex-officio* chairman of the General Board of Managers and of the Executive Committee and a member of every other committee.

SEC. 2. At each annual meeting he shall appoint the following Standing Committees

Committee on Auditing,
" " Correspondence.
" " Credentials,
" " Finance,
" " Organization,
" " Unfinished Business,

The duties of the above committees shall be such as usually pertain to committees of like character, and such as may be defined by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE IV.

VICE-PRESIDENT-GENERAL.

SECTION 1. In the absence of the President-General one of the Honorary Vice-Presidents-General or one of the Vice-Presidents-General shall be elected to preside at the Annual Meeting.

SEC. 2. In the prolonged absence or inability to act of the President-General the executive authority shall be vested in the Vice-President-General first in order of precedence.

ARTICLE V.

SECRETARY-GENERAL.

The Secretary-General, in addition to his general duties, shall have charge of the seal, give due notice of all meetings of the National Society or General Board of Managers, of which he shall be *ex-officio* a member. He shall give due notice to all general officers and State Societies of all votes, orders, and proceedings affecting or appertaining to their duties. He shall distribute all pamphlets, circulars, rosettes, and supplies as directed by the General Board of Managers.

ARTICLE VI.

TREASURER-GENERAL.

SECTION 1. The Treasurer-General shall collect and receive the funds and securities of the National Society. He shall deposit the same to the credit of the "Sons of the American Revolution" and shall draw them thence for the use of the National Society as directed by it or by the General Board of Managers upon the order of the President-General, countersigned by the Secretary-General. His accounts shall be audited by a committee to be appointed at the Annual Meeting.

SEC. 2. He shall, if so required by the General Board of Managers or the Executive Committee, give bonds for the safe custody and application of the funds.

ARTICLE VII.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

The Registrar-General shall keep a Register of the names and dates of the election, resignation, or death of all members of the several State Societies, and shall have the care and custody of all duplicate applications for membership.

He shall issue, upon the requisition of the Secretary or Registrar of the several State Societies, certificates of membership and insignia to every member entitled thereto, through such Secretary or Registrar.

ARTICLE VIII.

HISTORIAN-GENERAL.

The Historian-General shall have the custody of all the historical and biographical collections of which the National Society may become possessed, and shall catalogue and arrange the same, and shall place the same in a fire-proof repository for preservation.

ARTICLE IX.

CHAPLAIN-GENERAL.

The Chaplain-General shall be a regularly ordained minister, and shall open and close all general meetings of the National Society with the services usual and proper on such occasions.

ARTICLE X.

STATE SOCIETIES.

Every State Society shall

(1) Notify the Secretary-General of the election and appointment of all officers and delegates.

(2) Pay to the Treasurer-General on the first day of March or within sixty days thereafter the sum of twenty-five cents for each active member thereof.

(3) Transmit to the Registrar-General duplicate applications of all accepted members and notify him of the resignation, or death of all members thereof.

ARTICLE XI.

GENERAL BOARD OF MANAGERS.

SECTION 1. The General Board of Managers shall prepare and carry out plans for promoting the objects and growth of the Society; shall generally superintend its interests and shall execute such other duties as shall be committed to it at any meeting of the National Society. It shall have charge of the printing of the Diploma and the manufacture of the Insignia, and shall determine the price at which the same shall be issued.

SEC. 2. It shall have authority to admit or re-organize as a State Society any association of fourteen or more persons duly qualified for membership in the Society.

SEC. 3. It shall have power to fill any vacancy occurring among the general officers, and an officer so elected shall act until the following annual election and until his successor shall be elected.

SEC. 4. It shall have authority to make, alter, and amend the by-laws as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 5. The President-General may call meetings of the General Board of Managers at any time he may deem necessary, and shall call such meeting upon the written request of any five members thereof, provided that not less than five days' notice of the time and place of such meeting shall be given.

ARTICLE XII.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The President-General may call a meeting of the Executive Committee at any time, and shall call such meeting on the written request of three members thereof.

ARTICLE XIII.

SEAL.

The seal of the Society shall be two and three eighths of an inch in diameter, charged with the figure of a minute-

man grasping a musket in his right hand, and surrounded by a constellation of thirteen stars, who shall be depicted in the habit of a husbandman of the period of the American Revolution and as in the act of deserting the plough for the service of his country; the whole encircled by a band three eighths of an inch wide, within which shall appear the legend "National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, organized April 30, 1889."

ARTICLE XIV.

CERTIFICATES.

All members of the Society, wherever admitted, shall be entitled to a certificate of membership duly attested by the President-General, Secretary-General, and Registrar-General, countersigned by the President, Secretary, and Registrar of the State Society, to which such member shall have been admitted.

ARTICLE XV.

INSIGNIA.

The Insignia of the Society shall comprise (1) a cross surmounted by an eagle in gold or silver, (2) a duplicate for the same in miniature, (3) a rosette.

SECTION 1. The Cross shall be of silver, with four arms, and eight white enamelled points, same size as Chevaliers' Cross of the Legion of Honor of France, with a gold medallion in the centre, bearing on the obverse a bust of Washington in profile, and on the reverse, the figure of a minuteman, surrounded by a ribbon enamelled blue, with the motto "Libertas et Patria" on the obverse, and the legend, "Sons of the American Revolution" on the reverse; both in letters of gold. The cross shall be surmounted by an eagle in gold or silver, and the whole decoration suspended from a ring of gold by a ribbon of deep blue with white edges, and may be worn by any member of the Society on ceremonial

occasions only, and shall be carried on the left breast, or, if an officer, at the collar.

SEC. 2. The duplicate shall have all the essential features of the cross, but shall be miniature size.

SEC. 3. The rosette shall be seven sixteenths of an inch in diameter, of usual pattern, displaying the colors of the Society, and may be worn by all members at discretion in the upper left hand button-hole of the coat.

ARTICLE XVI.

INDEBTEDNESS.

No debts shall be contracted on behalf of the National Society. Every obligation for the payment of money, except checks drawn against deposits, executed in the name or on behalf of the National Society, shall be null and void.

ARTICLE XVII.

AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a vote of three fourths of the members present at any meeting of the General Board of Managers, notice thereof having been given at a previous meeting.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY, ELECTED APRIL 30, 1890.

President-General, Dr. WILLIAM SEWARD WEBB, Vermont.
Vice-President-General, Hon. LUCIUS P. DEMING, Connecticut.
" " Gov. SIMON BOLIVAR BUCKNER, Kentucky.
" " Hon. WILLIAM H. ARNOUX, New York.
" " Mr. JOSIAH C. PUMPELLY, New Jersey.
" " G. BROWN GOODE, Ph.D., LL.D., Washington, D. C.
Secretary-General, Lieut. JAMES C. CRESAP, U. S. N., Maryland.
Treasurer-General, Mr. JAMES OTIS, New York.
Registrar-General, Mr. LUTHER L. TARBELL, Massachusetts.
Historian-General, Mr. WILLIAM FRANCIS CREGAR, Maryland.
Surgeon-General, WILLIAM THORNTON PARKER, M.D., Rhode Island.
Chaplain-General, Rev. CHARLES EDWARD CHENEY, Bishop of Illinois, Illinois.

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS-GENERAL.

Admiral DAVID D. PORTER, District of Columbia.
General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, District of Columbia.
EDWIN S. BARRETT, Massachusetts.

PAST PRESIDENT-GENERAL.

Hon. LUCIUS P. DEMING, Connecticut.

HONORARY PAST PRESIDENT-GENERAL.

Col. A. S. HUBBARD, California.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

The General Board of Managers of the National Society consists of all the officers of that Society, together with the presidents of all State Societies.

ADDRESSES OF NATIONAL OFFICERS.

Dr. WILLIAM SEWARD WEBB, President-General,
Grand Central Depot, New York City.
Hon. LUCIUS P. DEMING, Vice-President-General,
New Haven, Conn.
Lieut. JAMES C. CRESAP, U. S. N., Secretary-General,
Annapolis, Md.
Mr. LUTHER L. TARBELL, Registrar-General,
Boston, Mass.
WM. FRANCIS CREGAR, Historian-General,
Annapolis, Md.
WM. THORNTON PARKER, M.D., Surgeon-General,
Newport, R. I.
Rt. Rev. CHAS. EDWARD CHENEY, D.D., LL.D., Chaplain-General, Chicago, Ill.

LIST OF STATE SOCIETIES, DATES OF ORGANIZATION, AND LIST OF OFFICERS ELECTED SINCE MAY 1, 1890.

CALIFORNIA.

ORGANIZED JULY 4, 1876.

President, Col. A. S. HUBBARD, San Francisco.
First Vice-President, CHARLES J. KING, San Francisco.
Secretary and Treasurer, Col. W. B. EASTIN, San Francisco.

NEW JERSEY.

ORGANIZED MARCH 7, 1889.

President, JOSIAH C. PUMPELLY, Morristown.
Secretary, J. LAWRENCE BOGGS, Jr., Newark.
Treasurer, PAUL REVERE, Morristown.
Registrar, JOHN WHITEHEAD, Morristown.

CONNECTICUT.

ORGANIZED APRIL 2, 1889.

President, JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Norwich.
Secretary, LUCIUS F. ROBINSON, Hartford.
Treasurer, ROLAND B. LACEY, Bridgeport.
Registrar, J. G. WOODWARD, Hartford.

VERMONT.

ORGANIZED APRIL 2, 1889.

President, Hon. GEORGE G. BENEDICT, Burlington.
Secretary, C. S. FORBES, St. Albans.
Treasurer, WILLIAM H. ZOTTMAN, Burlington.
Registrar, Hon. HIRAM A. HUSE, Montpelier.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

ORGANIZED APRIL 18, 1889.

President, Hon. J. P. RICHARDSON, Columbia.
Secretary and Registrar, U. R. BROOKS, Columbia.
Treasurer, A. P. BROWN, Columbia.

MASSACHUSETTS.

ORGANIZED APRIL 19, 1889.

President, Hon. CHARLES H. SAUNDERS, Cambridge.
Secretary, ALFRED L. BROOKS FRY, Boston.
Treasurer, Col. JOHN L. STEVENSON, Boston.
Registrar, L. L. TARBELL, Boston.

MARYLAND.

ORGANIZED APRIL 20, 1889.

President, Gen. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON, Baltimore.
Secretary, JOHN R. DORSEY, Baltimore.
Treasurer, FRANCIS PUTNAM STEVENS, Baltimore.
Registrar, WM. FRANCIS CREGAR, Annapolis.

OHIO.

ORGANIZED APRIL 22, 1889.

President, Rev. WILSON R. PARSONS, Worthington.
Secretary and Treasurer, HENRY A. WILLIAMS, Columbus.

KENTUCKY.

ORGANIZED APRIL 23, 1889.

President, Hon. WILLIAM LINDSAY, Frankfort.
Secretary, JOHN W. BUCHANAN, Louisville.
Treasurer, GRANT GREEN, Frankfort.
Registrar, E. PORTER THOMPSON, Frankfort.

MISSOURI.

ORGANIZED APRIL 23, 1889.

President, JOSIAH FOGG, St. Louis.
Registrar and Secretary, H. J. BLISS, St. Louis.
Treasurer, Dr. CHARLES E. BRIGGS, St. Louis.

TENNESSEE.

Organized December 2, 1889.

President, Rev. D. C. Kelly, D.D., Nashville.
Secretary and Treasurer, Joseph G. Branch, Nashville.

MINNESOTA.

Organized December 26, 1889.

President, Hon. Albert Edgerton, St. Paul.
Secretary and Treasurer, A. S. Tallmadge, St. Paul.

WISCONSIN.

Organized January 14, 1890.

President, Don J. Whittemore.
Secretary, Capt. Chas. King, U. S. A., Milwaukee.
Registrar, William W. Wight, Milwaukee.
Treasurer, Paul D. Carpenter, Milwaukee.

INDIANA.

Organized January 16, 1890.

President, Hon. Will E. English, Indianapolis.
Secretary, Charles W. Moores, Indianapolis.
Treasurer, Rev. C. H. McDowell, Indianapolis.
Registrar, David E. Snyder, Indianapolis.

MICHIGAN.

Organized January 18, 1890.

President, Hon. H. B. Ledyard, Detroit.
Secretary and Treasurer, Frederick T. Sibley, Detroit.
Registrar, Silas Farmer, Detroit.

DELAWARE.

Organized January 29, 1890.

President, Hon. Thomas F. Bayard, Wilmington.
Secretary and Treas., Albert W. Cummins, Wilmington.
Registrar, L. B. Jones, Wilmington.

WEST VIRGINIA.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 31, 1890.

President, Hon. JOHN J. JACOBS, Wheeling.
Secretary and Registrar, Hon. GEO. L. CRANMER, Wheeling.
Treasurer, ROBERT WHITE, Wheeling.

ALABAMA.

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 10, 1890.

President, Capt. JOSEPH F. JOHNSTON, Birmingham.
Secretary and Treasurer, Col. ST. GEO. T. C. BRYAN, Birmingham.

ARKANSAS.

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 11, 1890.

President, Col. SAMUEL W. WILLIAMS, Little Rock.
Secretary, Prof. JOSIAH H. SHINN, Little Rock.
Treasurer, Hon. JAMES MITCHEL, Little Rock.

ILLINOIS.

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 11, 1890.

Vice-President, Rt. Rev. CHAS. E. CHENEY, D.D., LL.D., Chicago.
Secretary, Capt. RICHARD ROBINS, Chicago.
Treasurer, HORATIO L. WAIT, Chicago.
Registrar, JOHN D. VANDERCROOK, Chicago.

NEW YORK.

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 11, 1890.

President, Hon. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, LL.D., New York City.
Secretary, EDMUND C. STANTON, New York City.
Treasurer, JAMES OTIS, New York City.

RHODE ISLAND.

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY, 1890.

President, Rev. E. B. ANDREWS, D.D., Providence.
Secretary, THEODORE F. TILLINGHAST, Providence.
Treasurer, OLNEY ARNOLD, Providence.
Registrar, EDWARD FIELD.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

ORGANIZED APRIL 21, 1890.

President, Admiral D. D. PORTER, U. S. Navy.
Corresponding Secretary, W. C. WINLOCK, Washington.
Recording Secretary, F. O. ST. CLAIR, Washington.
Treasurer, Col. MARSHALL MCDONALD, Washington.
Registrar, G. BROWNE GOODE, Ph.D., Washington.

NEBRASKA.

ORGANIZED APRIL 26, 1890.

President, C. S. CHASE, Omaha.
Secretary, NATHAN J. BURNHAM, Omaha.
Treasurer, W. W. COPELAND, Omaha.
Registrar. Rev. LUTHER M. KUHNS, Omaha.

LOUISIANA.

ORGANIZED MAY 16, 1890.

President, Hon. WM. H. JACK, Natchitoches.
Secretary, T. JONES CROSS, Baton Rouge.
Treasurer, Hon. W. H. PIPES, Baton Rouge.
Registrar, JACOB MCWILLIAMS, Baton Rouge.

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